



Vol. 1, Issue 11, December 2018

IMPACT UPDATE

Protecting, Preventing, Providing

Larry Hogan
Governor

Boyd K. Rutherford
Lt. Governor

Colonel William Pallozzi
Superintendent

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Seeks To Hire More

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Maryland State Police Participates In National Prescription Drug Take Back Day

(PIKESVILLE, Md.) – The Maryland State Police, in partnership with the Drug Enforcement Administration, worked to encourage residents to dispose of any unwanted and expired prescription medications during the latest National Prescription Drug Take Back Day, which took place on Oct. 27 at all 23 state police barracks and through other law enforcement agencies across the country.

Each barrack acted as a collection station to give residents an opportunity to dispose of all unwanted and unused prescription

drugs. The National Prescription Drug Take Back Day aims to provide a safe, convenient, and responsible means of disposing of prescription drugs, while also educating the general public about the potential for abuse of medications. Second only to marijuana, non-medical prescription drugs are the most commonly used drug in the country.

According to the Drug Enforcement Administration, a majority of teenagers abusing prescription drugs are finding an unlimited supply in their family's medicine cabinet.

Locally during the most recent event, troopers collected nearly 1,895 pounds of prescription drugs. Since 2014, Maryland State Police have collected more than 19,717 pounds of prescription drugs through similar initiatives.

Marylanders are reminded every day is Drug Take Back Day at the Maryland State Police because you can drop unused meds off at any state police barrack at any time of the day throughout the year.



IMPACT UPDATE

Maryland State Police Salutes Veterans, Seeks To Hire More

(PIKESVILLE, Md.) – In support of the Hogan Administration's "Hire A Veteran Month," the Maryland State Police is actively recruiting military veterans, while supporting those veterans who have joined the Department in a way that is modeled by other organizations.

MSP Superintendent Colonel William Pallozzi, himself a former U.S. Army Company commander, recently presented the Department's Freedom Award to six troopers. These troopers were members of the last trooper candidate class and have previously or are currently serving in the U.S. Armed Forces. There are currently 419 military veterans who are sworn or civilian employees of the Maryland State Police. Of those, 57 are current members of a military Reserve or National Guard unit. Since September 11, 2001, at least one member of the Maryland State Police has been continuously deployed in military service somewhere around the world.

The Maryland State Police has a military liaison program that has become a model for other law enforcement agencies and organizations. The Department's military



Troopers Esai Cunningham, Jeffrey Tenan, Bradley Todd, Adam Baldi, Steven Carr and Valentine Nagovich were recently awarded the MSP's Freedom Award.

liaison officer, who is both a retired Maryland state trooper and a retired member of the United States Army, works to recruit military personnel from around the country. He assists members of the Maryland State Police when they deploy or return home from military duty. He also ensures their families are assisted if needs arise while their loved ones are away.

Military veterans are recruited for both sworn and civilian positions within the Maryland State Police. There is a significant emphasis on recruiting military pilots to fill vacancies within the Aviation Command. A number of Maryland

State Police helicopter pilots are current and former military service personnel, who received their flight training and experience in the military.

Maryland State Police support for our veterans was recognized by the US Secretary of Defense in 2016. Colonel Pallozzi accepted the Secretary of Defense Employer Support Freedom Award, the highest honor the Department of Defense gives to employers for support of National Guard and Reserve employees. For more information on MSP careers, visit <https://mdsp.maryland.gov/Careers/Pages/default.aspx>

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IMPACT UPDATE

Maryland State Police Increased Patrols Over Thanksgiving Holiday

(PIKESVILLE, Md.) – Maryland State Police had additional troopers on patrol during the Thanksgiving holiday who used a variety of initiatives to keep traffic moving, respond quickly to highway incidents and take appropriate enforcement action when violations were observed that threatened the safety of travelers.

Between Nov. 21 and 25, troopers from each of the 23 Maryland State Police barracks statewide focused enforcement efforts on impaired driving, aggressive driving, speeding, distracted driving and other violations that often contribute to highway tragedies, especially during holiday seasons.

Barracks across Maryland used impaired driving grant funding from the MDOT/MVA Maryland Highway Safety Office to put additional troopers on the road. These troopers saturated areas known to have a higher frequency of impaired driving arrests or crashes. The enforcement focus of the troopers in these patrols were solely on locating and arresting impaired drivers.

Troopers urged travelers not to drive distracted, impaired or aggres-



It is estimated to cost someone arrested for impaired driving about \$10,000 for legal fees, fines, lost wages and multiple other reasons.

sively and to make traffic safety their first priority whenever they were behind the wheel.

Over the Thanksgiving holiday period, Maryland State Police made

99 DUI arrests, issued 4,473 citations and 4,732 warnings, stopped 7,299 vehicles, while making 22 criminal arrests and 21 drug-related arrests. Troopers responded to 339 crashes and answered 7,343 calls for service.

It is estimated to cost someone arrested for impaired driving about \$10,000 for legal fees, fines, lost wages and multiple other reasons. That cost is just for a simple arrest. If a crash is involved, the cost goes up exponentially, since a price cannot be placed on a life lost.

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IMPACT UPDATE

Trooper From Forestville Barrack Rescues Motorist From Burning Vehicle In Bowie

(BOWIE, Md.) – A trooper is credited with saving the life of a man by rescuing him just before his vehicle burst into flames in Prince George's County.

Shortly after 12:40 p.m. on Oct. 31st, Trooper Warren Thompson, assigned to the Forestville Barrack, was on patrol when he encountered an SUV that had crashed on Rt. 214 and Church Road in Bowie. According to a preliminary investigation, the victim, a 66-year-old man, suffered a medical emergency when he hit a guardrail that subsequently caused the vehicle's engine to catch fire.

Trooper Thompson was able to remove the victim from the vehicle right before it erupted into flames. Prince George's County Fire/EMS



Trooper Warren Thompson helped rescue a 66-year-old man from a burning vehicle in Bowie. (Photos courtesy of Prince George's Co. Fire/EMS Department.)

Department responded to the scene to extinguish the fire and transported the victim to University of Maryland Prince George's Hospital Center for treatment of his injuries.



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IMPACT UPDATE



Maryland State Police Arrest Suspected Gang Member On Drug Charges In Baltimore City

(BALTIMORE) - Maryland State Police arrested a suspected member of an organized criminal gang on charges of dealing drugs and related weapons offenses in Baltimore City.

Andre D. Davis, 29, of Baltimore, was charged with distribution of controlled dangerous substances, possession of controlled dangerous substances and multiple handgun and weapons charges.

Davis, who is believed to be a member of the Bloods gang, was arrested and transported to the Maryland State Police Glen Burnie Barrack before being taken to the Baltimore Police Department's Southern District in order to be transferred to Central Booking.

According to a preliminary investigation, Maryland State Police, along with Anne Arundel County Police

and Homeland Security Investigations, served a search and seizure warrant on Nov. 1st at an address in the 4500 block of Pennington Avenue in the Curtis Bay area of Baltimore City.

As a result of the search and seizure warrant, investigators recovered what they believed to be heroin, crack cocaine, powdered cocaine, marijuana, synthetic marijuana, prescription opioids, and two handguns.

Davis, who was arrested at the scene, is suspected of supplying heroin and cocaine to other drug dealers in Baltimore City and Anne Arundel County.

This investigation is part of a larger effort by the Maryland State Police to target inter-jurisdictional and cross-border criminal activity affecting communities throughout Maryland.

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IMPACT UPDATE

Recent Fatal Crashes Highlight Safety Concerns For Pedestrians, Motorists

Safety Tip of the Month

Nationally, there were 5,987 pedestrian fatalities reported in 2016, according to the NHTSA. For motorists, if a car is stopped at a marked crosswalk, stop and look for crossing pedestrians. For pedestrians, remember many crashes occur at midblock locations where drivers don't expect pedestrians.

(PIKESVILLE, Md.) – With Maryland State Police investigating at least six fatal pedestrian crashes in October, troopers are urging both motorists and pedestrians to use common sense, take responsibility and be more courteous on Maryland's roadways.

Between 2013 and 2017, an average of 111 pedestrians were killed and 3,058 were injured annually in pedestrian-related crashes in Maryland, according to the MDOT Maryland Highway Safety Office. Here are some safety tips for both motorists and pedestrians:

Safety Tips for Drivers

- Look for pedestrians walking along the roadway and at crossings and intersections.



- Stop for pedestrians at crosswalks as required by Maryland law.
- Be careful passing stopped vehicles. Slow down and obey the posted speed limit.
- Yield to pedestrians when turning.
- Use extra caution at night when it may be harder to see pedestrians attempting to cross the road
- Walk on the side-walk. If there is no sidewalk, always walk on the side of the road facing traffic.
- Cross the street at marked crosswalks and at intersections.
- Before crossing, look left, right and left again.
- Obey traffic signals, including pedestrian signals.
- Look before stepping past stopped vehicles.
- Stay visible after dark and in bad weather.
- Use caution around any vehicle backing out of spaces and driveways.

Safety Tips for Pedestrians

- Walk on the side-

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IMPACT UPDATE

College Park Troopers Recognized For Positive Work In The Community

(COLLEGE PARK, Md.) — Two troopers from the College Park Barrack were each recently recognized for the positive work they are doing in the community.

TFC Alioune Niasse, who was a member of the 141st MSP Academy Class, was recently recognized by the Greater Bowie Chamber of Commerce and received their Distinguished Service Award for his work in and around the Bowie area.

In 2017, TFC Niasse's enforcement efforts helped lead to a 44

percent reduction in collisions on Rt. 50. For the year, TFC Niasse made over 3,000 traffic stops, issuing almost 2,000 citations, 1,700 warnings, and nearly 400 SEROs. TFC Niasse was also responsible for nine criminal investigations, 27 criminal arrests, a recovered firearm, and for removing 11 impaired drivers from Maryland roads.

Trooper Paul Nield was recently honored as the Greenbelt American Legion, Post 136 Police Officer of the Year.



TFC Paul Nield, right, with Lt. Vince Upole of the College Park Barrack.

Trooper Nield was selected for his hard work so far in 2018. This includes making nearly 900 traffic stops, resulting in 38 DUI arrests, 1,200 citations, 900 warnings, 152 SERO's. His 12 criminal investigations lead to 27 criminal arrests and 14 civil marijuana violations.

Tfc. Nield, who was a member of the 146th MSP Academy Class, has also investigated 119 motor vehicle collisions. He is currently in the intensive Drug Recognition Expert school and will soon be certified as a DRE.



TFC Alioune Niasse right, with Lt. Vince Upole of the College Park Barrack.

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IMPACT UPDATE



The Police Plunge is one of the many events set to take place as part of the 23rd annual MSP Polar Bear Plunge.

Maryland State Police, Special Olympics Maryland Prepare For 23rd Annual Polar Bear Plunge

(ANNAPOLIS, Md.) — The temperature may be getting colder, but preparations are heating up for the 23rd annual Maryland State Police Polar Bear Plunge.

This year's Plungefest, which benefits Special Olympics Maryland, is set for Jan. 24-26, 2019 at Sandy Point State Park in Annapolis.

A Maryland tradition, the Polar Bear Plunge has grown to the point where 10,000 courageous plungers take a dip in the 30-degree waters of the Chesapeake Bay.

Individuals who participate in the

Maryland State Police Polar Bear Plunge pledge to raise at least \$75 with the funds going toward supporting 7,782 Special Olympic athletes throughout Maryland.

The Polar Bear Plunge offers a variety of events that attract a diverse group of plungers. It all starts on Jan. 18, 2019 with the Super Plunge in which participants agree to plunge into the Chesapeake Bay 24 times in 24 hours.

The Cool Schools Plunge occurs on Jan. 24th. This plunge challenges schools from across the state to organize teams, show their school

spirit and help support the cause.

The Police/Fire/Military Plunge and the Corporate Plunge are set for Jan. 25th. These plunges were created to provide corporate teams, other business entities and law enforcement agencies with a great team-building opportunity that provides financial support to Special Olympics Maryland.

On Saturday, Jan. 26th, plunges will occur hourly from 11 am to at least 3 pm to accommodate the crowd. There is still plenty of time to register either as an individual and/or as a team. For more information, visit plunge.md.com.

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